RECEIVED

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS SECURITIES COMMISSIONER CASE NO. S-13-0065

ORDER NO. S-13-0065-13-OR01

ARKANSAS SECURITIES DEPT.

JUN 18 AM 8: 33

IN THE MATTER OF: HUNTER SCOTT FINANCIAL, LLC, CRD NO. 45559

RESPONDENT

CONSENT ORDER

This Consent Order is entered pursuant to the Arkansas Securities Act, codified at Ark.

Code Ann. §§ 23-42-101 through 23-42-509 ("Act"), the Rules of the Arkansas Securities

Commissioner ("Rules") promulgated under the Act and the Arkansas Administrative Procedures

Act, codified at Ark. Code Ann. §§ 25-15-201 through 25-15-219, in accordance with an

agreement by and between the Staff of the Arkansas Securities Department ("Staff") and Hunter

Scott Financial, LLC ("Hunter Scott") in full and final settlement of all claims that could be

brought against Hunter Scott by the Staff on the basis of the facts set forth herein.

Hunter Scott admits the jurisdiction of the Act and the Arkansas Securities Commissioner

("Commissioner"), waives its right to a formal hearing and appeal, without admitting or denying

the findings of facts made herein, consents to the entry of this order and agrees to abide by its

terms in settlement of any possible violations committed by Hunter Scott concerning the matters

detailed in this order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Hunter Scott, CRD No. 45559, is a registered broker-dealer. Hunter Scott is also a

limited liability company organized and operating under the laws of the State of Florida. Hunter

Scott has been registered in Arkansas under the Act since July 14, 2004.

1

- 2. From April 2010 until December 2012, Hunter Scott charged a \$50.00 handling fee on multiple occasions to its one Arkansas client. The handling fee was excessive and had no relation to any actual costs incurred by Hunter Scott for this client's securities trades. Therefore, this fee amounted to an undisclosed commission fee being charged by Hunter Scott to its one Arkansas client.
- 3. On or about June 4, 2013, FINRA entered a consent order against Hunter Scott concerning violations committed by Hunter Scott that were similar to the violations detailed in this order. In the FINRA consent order, Hunter Scott agreed to pay a fine in the amount of \$25,000 to FINRA for said violations. However, the FINRA consent order did not make any provision for the refund or return of any fees or commissions to the one Arkansas client.
- 4. Hunter Scott has already amended the disclosure of the fee discussed above in order to prevent a reoccurrence of this violation.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 5. Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 23-42-308(a)(2)(F)(i) Hunter Scott is the subject of a recent FINRA consent order as detailed in paragraph three.
- 6. In violation of Rule 308.01(C) of the Rules, Hunter Scott failed to observe high standards of commercial honor and just and equitable principles of trade when it charged one Arkansas resident an undisclosed commission fee that was characterized as a handling fee as detailed in paragraph two.
- 7. Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 23-42-308(a)(2)(B) the violations committed by Hunter Scott warrant the entry of an order in this case.

UNDERTAKINGS

In settlement of this matter, but without admitting or denying the findings of fact made above, Hunter Scott agrees to refund and return handling fees in the total amount of \$1,785.00,

which represents the fees collected from the one Arkansas client that were in excess of any actual out-of-pocket expenses actually incurred by Hunter Scott for the time period covered by this order.

OPINION

This order is in the public interest. The facts as set out in paragraphs two and three support the violations of the Act and Rules as set out in paragraphs five and six.

<u>ORDER</u>

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that within 30 days of the entry of this order Hunter Scott shall provide proof to the Staff that Hunter Scott has refunded and returned handling fees in the total amount of \$1,785.00 to the one Arkansas client for the time period covered by this order. Said amount represents the fees charged by Hunter Scott in excess of any actual out-of-pocket expenses actually incurred. The proof of refund or return by Hunter Scott shall be in a form that is acceptable to the Staff. Further, along with the refund payment Hunter Scott shall include a letter that fully explains the refund to the one Arkansas client.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL on this /8 day of June, 2013.

A. Heath Abshure

Arkansas Securities Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT

AND FORM

Peter Gouzos, President/CEO Hunter Scott Financial, LLC

Respondent

Gregg Breitbart, Counsel for Hunter Scott Financial, LLC APPROVED AS TO CONTENT

AND FORM:

Scott Freydl

Staff Attorney

Arkansas Securities Department